

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
"A Tradition of Service"
OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: January 12, 2006

FILE NO.: SH2119005

FROM: JOHNNY G. JURADO, COMMANDER
ERIC B. SMITH, COMMANDER
KENNETH J. BRAZILE, COMMANDER
ROBERT L. BINKLEY, COMMANDER

TO: KARYN MANNIS, CAPTAIN
INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE DISPOSITION:

DEPUTY RICHARD CONLEY, # [REDACTED]
CENTURY STATION

On May 20, 2004, Deputy Cooper was handling a traffic stop in the area of Long Beach Boulevard in the city of Lynwood when he heard a gunshot coming from the south of his location. Looking south, Deputy Cooper saw two males (Suspects #1 and #2) standing in front of a liquor store, saw a muzzle flash and heard three to four more additional gunshots. Deputy Cooper got into his patrol car and drove south toward the liquor store. After arriving at the location, he noticed the male suspects were gone. Deputy Cooper put out a radio broadcast and requested additional deputies respond to the location to assist in checking the area for the suspects.

Deputy Conley and his partner, Deputy Paul were patrolling the area north of the initial shooting location and responded to assist in checking the area. Deputy Conley followed another patrol unit, Deputy Spiropoulos, driving east on Burton Avenue. Both units turned south on Bullis Road, pulled along side each other and stopped to talk. Deputy Conley looked in his rear view mirror and saw two males walking north on the west side of Bullis Road from Burton Avenue. Deputy Conley told Deputy Spiropoulos what he saw and Deputy Spiropoulos placed his patrol car in reverse and backed up a short distance, stopping adjacent to where the males were walking. Deputy Conley made a U-turn and followed. Immediately upon stopping, Deputy Spiropoulos exited his vehicle and ordered the males to stop. As Deputy Conley's unit approached, Deputy Conley saw that while one male, Suspect #2, was raising his hands, the other male, Suspect #1, took-off running east across Bullis Road. Deputy Conley drove forwards toward Suspect #1 in an attempt to cut off his escape. Suspect #1 jumped and slid over the hood of Deputy Conley's patrol car, and as he did so, Deputy Conley saw that Suspect #1 was now carrying a large handgun in his right hand. Deputy Spiropoulos held Suspect #2 at gunpoint as Suspect #1 fled.

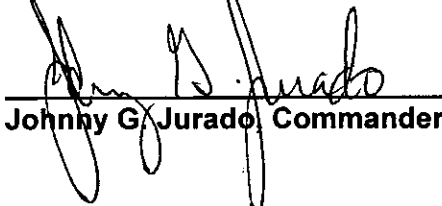
Deputy Conley exited his patrol car and yelled to Deputy Paul that Suspect #1's got a gun. Deputy Conley withdrew his handgun and ordered Suspect #1 stop and drop the gun. Suspect #1 ignored the order and ran to a wrought iron fence and before attempting to climb over, turned around and pointed the handgun at Deputies Conley and Paul, who had started to give chase. Deputy Conley, afraid for his life and that of his partner's, fired two 9mm rounds, striking Suspect #1 once in the abdomen. Suspect #1 immediately fell to the sidewalk and subsequently taken into custody without further incident.

An unloaded 9mm Beretta, Model 92F, was recovered near Suspect #1, and a .22 caliber Astra, long rifle, semiautomatic pistol was recovered from the locality where Suspect #2 was detained and arrested

On January 12, 2006, the Executive Force Review Committee convened and conducted a review regarding the facts of this case. The applicable policies that were evaluated by the committee were: MMP § 3-01/025.00: Use of Force; MMP § 3-01/025.30: Use of Firearms and Deadly Force; MMP § 3-01/025.10: Unreasonable Force; and MMP § 3-01/050.10: Performance to Standards. Concerning:

MMP § 3-01/025.00: Use of Force, MMP § 3-01/025.30: Use of Firearms and Deadly Force, and MMP § 3-01/025.10: Unreasonable Force, the Committee determined that the force used by the deputy was reasonable and necessary and in compliance with Department policy.

MMP § 3-01/050.10: Performance to Standards, the Committee determined that the tactics employed by the deputy in this incident were within Department Policy.



Johnny G. Jurado, Commander

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SH 2119005

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

INVESTIGATIVE NARRATIVE

EXHIBITS

- A. Sheriff's Department Incident Report, URN # 004-08603-2117-051**
 - ▶ Supplemental Reports
- B. Compact Disk- Recording of Sheriff's Department Emergency Radio Traffic**
- C. Los Angeles County District Attorney's Letter of Opinion**
- D. Historical Criminal Information Regarding Suspect Daniels**

PHOTOGRAPHS of SCENE- By LASD Scientific Services Bureau

- 1. Photograph of Involved Deputies' Radio Car**
- 2. Photograph of Involved Deputies' Radio Car in Relationship to the Curb Line**
- 3. Additional Photograph of Involved Deputies' Radio Car**
- 4. Additional Photograph of Involved Deputies' Radio Car**
- 5. Photograph of Suspect Daniels' Clothing and 9 mm bullet**
- 6. Photograph of Fence and Classroom on Bullis Road**
- 7. Photograph of 9 mm Beretta, used by Suspect Daniels**
- 8. Close up Photograph of 9 mm Beretta used by Suspect Daniels**

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

- ▶ Century Sheriff's Station Daily In-Service
- ▶ Administrative Rights Forms

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT HOMICIDE BUREAU SHOOTING BOOK

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Officer Involved Shooting

Page 1 of 4

Report Date: 05-20-04		Bureau/Station/Facility: Century Sheriff's Station		Admin. Invest.? <input type="checkbox"/>	Hit? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Incident Information					
URN: 004-08603-2117-051		Date: 05-20-04		Time: 2209 hrs	
City or Station: Lynwood		Nature of Incident: After shooting at an occupied vehicle, the suspect fled, trying to make his escape by going over a fence. As the deputy approached the suspect, the suspect turned and pointed a handgun at the deputy. The deputy fired striking the suspect in the elbow.			
Location: Bullis Road, North of Burton Avenue Lynwood,					
Location Type (circle one or more): Backyard Beach Business Freeway Industrial Park Parking Lot Residence Rural School <u>Street</u> Other: _____	Lighting (circle only one): <u>Darkness</u> Daylight Other Street Lights	Incident Type (circle one or more): Accidental <u>Armed Person</u> <u>Fleeing Suspect</u> Foot Pursuit Gun Take Away Moving Vehicle Sniper/Ambush Startle Struggle Involved Traffic Stop Unarmed Person Unintentional Vehicle Pursuit Warrant Service Warning Shot Other: _____		Initiated by (circle only one): Arrest Warrant Call <u>Observation</u> One Person Unit Other Search Warrant Two Person Unit	
	Weather (circle only one): <u>Clear</u> Cloudy Fog Rain			Prior Activity (circle only one): Detective Inmate Transport Other <u>Routine Patrol</u>	
	Distance: 6-9 feet				
Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy 2 (two)	Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect None	Aero Unit? <input type="checkbox"/> Canine Unit? <input type="checkbox"/>			
Employee Witnesses					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Shift Time (circle only one): <u>EM</u> PM Day	Shift Type (circle only one): <u>Regular</u> Overtime Off Duty
	PAUL	SAMUEL			
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Shift Time (circle only one): EM <u>PM</u> Day	Shift Type (circle only one): <u>Regular</u> Overtime Off Duty
	SPIROPOULOS	JOHN			
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Shift Time (circle only one): EM PM Day	Shift Type (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty
Non-Employee Witnesses					
Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
None					
Street Address		City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Street Address		City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Street Address		City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Supervisors					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(circle one or more): <u>On Duty</u> Present during shooting	Witness to shooting Involved in shooting
	Hiles	Richard	G.		
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(circle one or more): <u>On Duty</u> Present during shooting	Witness to shooting Involved in shooting
Watch Sergeant					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name		M.I.	
		Mancilla		Sergio	
Watch Commander					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name		M.I.	
		Babbit		John	

PSTD Use Only	
SH #	2119005

Page 2 of 4

Shooting Force Information

(9) 9 mm	(24) .243 caliber	(41) .410 gauge
(10) 10 mm	(25) .25 caliber	(44) .44 caliber
(12) 12 gauge	(30) .308 caliber	(45) .45 caliber
(20) 20 gauge	(35) .357 caliber	(50) 50 mm
(21) .22-250	(36) 30-60 caliber	(SL) Slug
(22) .22 caliber	(38) .38 caliber	(WW) Other caliber
(23) .223 caliber	(40) .40 caliber	

Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

URN: 004-08603-2117-051

Page 3 of 4

Involved Employee

E 1	Employee #	Last Name CONLEY	First Name RICHARD	M.I. L.
Sex: M Race: White		Rank: Deputy	Unit Assignment: Century Station	
ShiftTime (circle only one): EM PM Day		ShiftType (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	
Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: 6-8		Duty Time (hrs):	Substance Used:	
Age: 5' 10"	Height: 210	Weight: 210	Other Factors:	
Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:	
Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	Certification Unit:	Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>
Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	First Name	M.I.

E	Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:		Rank	Unit Assignment:	
ShiftTime (circle only one): EM PM Day		ShiftType (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	
Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):	Substance Used:	
Age:	Height:	Weight:	Other Factors:	
Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:	
Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	Certification Unit:	Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>
Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	First Name	M.I.

E	Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:		Rank	Unit Assignment:	
ShiftTime (circle only one): EM PM Day		ShiftType (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	
Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):	Substance Used:	
Age:	Height:	Weight:	Other Factors:	
Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:	
Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	Certification Unit:	Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>
Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	First Name	M.I.

Officer Involved Shooting Suspect Information

URN: 004-08603-2117-051

Page 4 of 4

Suspect Information

S 1	Last Name DANIELS		First Name CHRISTOPHER		M.I. J.	
	AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
	Sex: M Race: Black	Street Address: [REDACTED]		City: [REDACTED]	State & Zip Code: [REDACTED]	
	Work Phone:	Home Phone: [REDACTED]	Social Security #: [REDACTED]		Driver's License #: [REDACTED]	
	Age: 22 D.O.B. 01-04-82	Height: 5' 11" Weight: 187	FBI #: [REDACTED]		CII #: [REDACTED]	
	Booking # 8145912	Primary Charge: 245(D)(1) PC		Secondary Charge: 69PC		
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case # N/A	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? [REDACTED]	
	Vehicle Make N/A		Model:		Year:	
S 2	Last Name [REDACTED]		First Name [REDACTED]		M.I. [REDACTED]	
	AKA Last Name [REDACTED]		First Name		M.I.	
	Sex: M Race: Black	Street Address: [REDACTED]		City: [REDACTED]	State & Zip Code: [REDACTED]	
	Work Phone:	Home Phone: [REDACTED]	Social Security #: [REDACTED]		Driver's License #: [REDACTED]	
	Age: 17 D.O.B. [REDACTED]	Height: 5' 09" Weight: 160	FBI #: [REDACTED]		CII #: [REDACTED]	
	Booking # [REDACTED]	Primary Charge: 12101(A)(1) PC		Secondary Charge: 12025(A)(3) PC		
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? [REDACTED]	
	Vehicle Make		Model:		Year:	
S	Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
	AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
	Sex: Race:	Street Address:		City:	State & Zip Code:	
	Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:		Driver's License #:	
	Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #		CII #	
	Booking #	Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:		
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Vehicle Make		Model:		Year:	
S	Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
	AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
	Sex: Race:	Street Address:		City:	State & Zip Code:	
	Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:		Driver's License #:	
	Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #		CII #	
	Booking #	Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:		
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Vehicle Make		Model:		Year:	



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
BUREAU OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION PROSECUTIONS
JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION**

STEVE COOLEY • District Attorney
CURT LIVESAY • Chief Deputy District Attorney
CURTIS A. HAZELL • Assistant District Attorney

RICHARD D. DOYLE • Director

January 12, 2005

Captain Raymond Peavy
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Homicide Bureau
5747 Rickenbacker Road
Commerce, California 90040

Dear Captain Peavy:

RE: J.S.I.D. File No. 04-0480
L.A.S.D. File No. 004-08603-2117-051

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the May 20, 2004 non-fatal shooting of Christopher Daniels by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy (LASD) Richard Conley. We conclude that Deputy Conley acted in lawful self-defense and the defense of others.

The following analysis is based on reports prepared by the LASD Homicide Bureau submitted to this office on October 28, 2004 by Sergeant William Marsh. The District Attorney's Command Center was notified of the shooting at 11:15 p.m. Members of the District Attorney Response Team, comprised of Deputy District Attorney Craig St. Pierre and Senior Investigator [REDACTED] responded to the scene. They were briefed on the circumstances surrounding the shooting and given a walk-through of the scene. There were no civilian witnesses to the shooting. Deputy Conley gave a voluntary statement to investigators which was considered as part of this analysis.

FACTUAL ANALYSIS

Late in the evening of May 20, 2004 Christopher Daniels, a Mob Piru gang member and active parolee, was involved in an altercation in front of the 2Boys Liquor Store located at 12211 Long Beach Boulevard in the City of Lynwood. He left the scene, retrieved a gun, and returned to the liquor store with [REDACTED] a juvenile, was also armed. Seeing the persons with whom Daniels had had the altercation, the two opened fire. The victims, seated in cars, sped away southbound on Long Beach Boulevard.

Deputy Johnathan Cooper was handling a traffic stop in the area of Long Beach Boulevard and Cedar Avenue when he heard the gunshots. Looking south he saw Daniels

Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012-3210
(213) 974-3888
WEBSITE: <http://da.co.la.ca.us>

Captain Peavy
January 12, 2005
Page 3 of 4

In a voluntary statement to investigators Christopher Daniels admitted being involved in the shooting at the 2Boys liquor store and to possession of the 9mm handgun he tossed into the schoolyard. Christopher Daniels' recount of the event is similar to Deputy Conley's in all aspects but one. Daniels claimed the gun was in his left front pants pocket as he fled from the deputies and that, "in one motion," he pulled the gun from his pocket and tossed it over the schoolyard fence. He denied pointing the gun at anyone and claimed that, at that moment he was shot, he had already tossed the gun.

During a voluntary interview [REDACTED] stated that, once at the fence, Christopher Daniels pulled out the gun and tried to toss it but was shot before he could do so. [REDACTED] admitted possessing the .22 caliber handgun but denied involvement in the earlier shooting at the 2Boys Liquor store. It should be noted that a credible witness identified [REDACTED] as being one of the two shooters at the liquor store.

Deputy Spiropulos saw Christopher Daniels run in front of his car before sliding across the hood of Deputy Conley's patrol car. Daniels held a large handgun in his right hand as he passed - a gun which, according to Deputy Spiropulos, was similar to the one found east of the schoolyard fence. Deputy Spiropulos did not see the shooting of Christopher Daniels because his attention was focused on the apprehension of [REDACTED]

Deputy Paul's statement was similar. He saw Christopher Daniels slide across the hood of his car holding a large gun in his hand. Once at the fence it appeared for a moment that Daniels was going to begin climbing when, instead, he turned toward the deputies with the gun held near his waistband. Deputy Paul ducked behind the passenger door of the patrol car and heard the report of two shots being fired. He did not know the source of the shots.

In 2001, Christopher Daniels was convicted of second degree burglary in violation of Penal Code section 459 and possessing an unmarked firearm in violation of Penal Code section 12094. He received a suspended state prison term which was later imposed. He was on parole at the time of the shooting.

CONCLUSION

The use of deadly force in self-defense or in the defense of another is permitted if it reasonably appears to the person claiming the right of self-defense, or the defense of another, that he actually and reasonably believed that he was in imminent danger of great bodily injury or death. *People v. Williams* (1977) 75 Cal. App.3d 731

Christopher Daniels had a 9mm pistol and used it to commit an armed assault prior to his confrontation with sheriff's deputies. Three deputies saw the weapon as he fled from them before he reached the schoolyard fence. Daniels himself admitted to possession. At that point whether he was trying to toss the gun or point it at the deputies is insignificant given that either action is sufficiently furtive to justify the use of deadly force by Deputy Conley. In the instant of decision Deputy Conley was under no obligation to wait and see

Captain Peavy
January 12, 2005
Page 2 of 4

and [REDACTED] firing their weapons at what he believed was a single vehicle -- which he saw speed away southbound on Long Beach Boulevard. He got in his marked patrol car and headed toward the liquor store. When he got there Daniels and [REDACTED] were gone. Deputy Cooper checked the status of some pedestrians and radioed what he had just observed. Deputies Richard Conley, Samuel Paul and John Spiropulos were patrolling in the area, heard Cooper's broadcast, and immediately went to his assistance. All three deputies were in marked patrol cars. Deputies Conley and Paul were together as Paul was [REDACTED] to the field and required a [REDACTED]

The two units patrolled together. Deputies Conley and Paul followed Deputy Spiropulos. The marked patrol cars turned southbound on Bullis Road from Magnolia Avenue and, near the intersection of Bullis Road and Burton Avenue, Deputy Conley passed Deputy Spiropulos in order to check a known Mob Piru gang hangout further south on Bullis Road. As he crossed or had just passed the intersection, Deputy Conley saw Daniels and [REDACTED] in his rear view mirror. They were walking near the northwest corner of Bullis Road and Burton Avenue. Deputy Conley made a U-turn and drove toward the suspects. Daniels ran northeast across Bullis Road toward a fenced schoolyard on the east side of the street. [REDACTED] discarded a .22 caliber semiautomatic handgun on the sidewalk in front of the residence at the corner and walked northbound on Bullis Road.

As Christopher Daniels ran eastbound across Bullis Road he was intercepted by Deputy Conley's patrol car. Rather than stop, Daniels leapt up and slid across the hood, regained his footing and kept running to a black, approximately eight foot high wrought iron fence bordering the east side of Bullis Road and the school campus. As Daniels passed in front of Deputy Conley's patrol car, both Conley and Paul saw a large, black handgun in his right hand.

Deputy Conley stopped and got out of the patrol car with Deputy Paul following suit. Deputy Conley shouted to Deputy Paul that Daniels had a gun. Daniels arrived at the base of the fence and, before climbing over, turned toward the deputies and raised the gun toward them. Afraid for his life and that of his partner, Deputy Conley fired two rounds from his department-issued 9 millimeter semiautomatic Beretta handgun. Daniels was struck with one round in the abdomen and immediately fell to the sidewalk where he remained until being removed by emergency medical personnel.

Daniels' gun, a 9 millimeter semiautomatic handgun, had recently been stolen from a Compton residence. It was found several feet east of the fence at the base of a temporary classroom on the campus of the school. It was not loaded. However, it should be noted that four expended 9 millimeter shell casings were recovered from Long Beach Boulevard just east of the 2Boys Liquor store. [REDACTED] was taken into custody without incident. A .22 caliber semiautomatic handgun was found near the sidewalk at the northwest corner of Bullis Road and Burton Avenue in front of the residence at [REDACTED] Burton Avenue. The gun had been stolen with Daniels' weapon during the same Compton residential burglary. [REDACTED] admitted that the gun was his.

Captain Peavy
January 12, 2005
Page 4 of 4

what Daniels intended. Deputy Conley's use of deadly force was both reasonable and lawful.

Having concluded that Deputy Richard Conley was acting in lawful self-defense and the defense of another when he shot Christopher Daniels, our file is now closed and we will take no further action in the matter.

Very truly yours,

STEVE COOLEY
District Attorney

By

KRAIG ST. PIERRE
Deputy District Attorney
(213) 974-5280

c: Deputy Richard Conley, # [REDACTED]